



**PATENT**

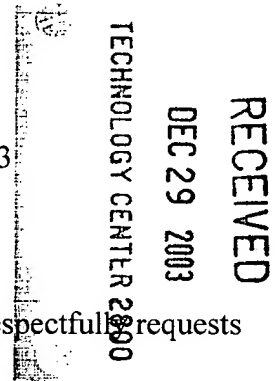
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	
In re Application of: <b>Cecchi, et al.</b> Serial No. <b>09/903,239</b> Filed: <b>07/11/01</b> For: <b>"CMOS Low Voltage High-Speed Differential Amplifier"</b>	Group Art Unit: <b>2816</b> Examiner: <b>NGUYEN, LONG T</b>
RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION	

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 15, 2003

Sir,

In response to the Official Action dated October 16, 2003, Applicant respectfully requests entry of the following remarks to perfect the record for appeal:



**REMARKS**

Claims 1-10 remain in the application. Applicant asserts that no new matter has been added. Reconsideration of the Application is hereby requested.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the telephone interview held with the Examiner on December 4, 2003. Substance of Interview: The Examiner and Applicant's attorney, Bryan W. Bockhop, esq., discussed the § 103(a) rejection and prior art references Zhang (USP 6,313,696), in view of Sasaki (USP 5,039,873). Mr. Bockhop put forth the argument that the figure in Sasaki that the Examiner cited in the Office Action, purportedly indicating that an always "on" transistor was a functional equivalent of a resistor, was insufficient to support a § 103(a) rejection because the purported equivalence was incorrect in the context of a transistor used in a differential amplifier. Mr. Bockhop supported the argument by stating that if the source voltage of the transistor were allowed to vary while the gate was held constant (as in the case of the biasing transistors shown in Zhang), then the effective resistance exhibited by the transistor